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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Rechlin Landing Field

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ENCLOSURE ATTACHED  
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report concerning the Rechlin landing field. The report gives considerable information concerning underground telephone cables, overhead telephone lines and the telephone exchange of the landing field. It also gives information on aircraft at the field and on buildings located on the field. The report includes a map overlay (one sheet), scale 1:25,000, showing the principal buildings and installations and the locations of the telephone exchange and the principal telephone lines.

Comment: Although this report is "dated", it is felt that it will give valuable background information.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

**SECRET****SECRET**EAST GERMANYAIR/MILITARYRECHLIN L/G. 53°20'50"N 12°44'30"E

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Cable Supply as at Oct 55

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APPENDIX

Attached at Appendix "A" is an overlay taken from local 1:25000 (double scale), showing features of the NORTHWEST corner of RECHLIN Airfield.

1. CABLE SUPPLY

There are 3 permanent recently re-conditioned underground telephone cables feeding into RECHLIN Airfield, and terminating in the telephone exchange located at MR 4885 1385.

The 3 cables use the same bed along the WESTERN perimeter of the airfield approx.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  metres below the surface. They are made up as follows:

- a) a cable of 60 pairs extending between the telephone exchange at RECHLIN and the telephone exchange on RECHLIN/LAERZ airfield. - E, G, F, M,
- b) a cable of 80 pairs, and another of 40 pairs extends between the RECHLIN telephone exchange and the postoffice in MIRROW.

The cables are of standard postoffice type, each having a .8 mm. conductor. They were originally laid in approx. 1935, and were re-conditioned and extended during the early part of the hostilities. Further partial renewal of portions on RECHLIN Airfield took place during the Autumn of 1955.

2. INTERNAL ROUTING OF TELEPHONE CABLES

The 3 cables pass through ELLERHOLZ, and the underground bed follows the side of the road along the WESTERN perimeter of the airfield, extending as far as a distributor point located at MR 4875 1390. At this point, the 60 pair cable and the 40 pair cable proceed directly into the telephone exchange located in the ground-floor of a building at MR 4885 1385. The 80 pair cable is broken at the distributor point, and the original cable proceeds NORTHwards along the airfield perimeter, its terminal being unknown. This portion of cable has been renewed for a distance of approx. 600 metres beyond the distributor point, but the lines were not in current use at that time.

From the distributor itself there is a cable of 80 pairs leading into the nearby building where the telephone exchange is located, and proceeds directly through the floor of the telephone exchange into the extensive cellars below. The SAF authorities stated their intentions of completing the remaining fittings associated with this particular cable.

3. HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS

At MR 490 140, there is a cluster of reconditioned (and in parts completely rebuilt) buildings which are reported to be used as an SAF H.Q. (for location, see sketch at Appendix "A").

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The building containing the telephone exchange is 2-storied (ground and one upper floor), and adjoining this there are other smaller buildings, the most NORTHERLY having a rebuilt small hangar and workshops building contained in it. There were several light communications type aircraft either in or outside of this small hangar. There were no other hangars remaining on the airfield.

This cluster of buildings was rebuilt on the original sites (i.e. they remained unchanged from the former Luftwaffe days), and were mainly in use as office accommodation. There were always numerous SAF officers to be seen entering or leaving the main (telephone exchange) block.

The telephone exchange consisted of a single room in which there was a hand-operated switchboard. One had the impression that this was only a provisional establishment.

Between the 3 main H.Q. buildings and the adjoining disused railway line, there were 3 or 4 2-storied barrack blocks occupied by SAF officers, in addition to the officers mess (casino).

#### 4. AIRFIELD OCCUPATION

At the time of report (October 1955), the airfield was occupied by an SAF administration unit. Apart from the very few light aircraft, no operational aircraft were stationed on the airfield. The nearby airfield at RECHLIN/LAERZ was occupied by a MIG-type fighter unit during this period.

Only 2 sites were in use on RECHLIN airfield, i.e. the alleged H.Q. site at MR 490 140, mostly occupied by officers, and a former permanent domestic site at MR 487 133. This latter site was partially derelict, but several barrack blocks were occupied by SAF personnel.

In addition to these 2 sites, there was an extensive families married quarters site at MR 484 142, in clusters of what appeared to be small requisitioned houses.

All other sites on and around the airfield perimeter, namely at MRs 500 130, 518 138, and 513 147, were either completely destroyed or derelict.

A somewhat dilapidated and overgrown rail spur extended along the WESTERN perimeter of the airfield, terminating at approx. MR 490 142. No activity was ever observed along this spur beyond the village of ELLERHOLZ.

#### 5. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS

In addition to the previously mentioned 3 underground telephone cables, there is a single line of overhead telephone wires, comprising approx. 15 pairs which leads back from the vicinity of the telephone exchange building, and proceeds SOUTHwards off the airfield.

At approx. MR 489 125, the overland system divides, 9 pairs proceeding off SOUTH WESTwards (which are positively known to extend as far as WITTSTOCK airfield), whilst the remaining 4 pairs lead off SOUTH EASTwards over the hills in the direction of RECHLIN/LAERZ airfield.

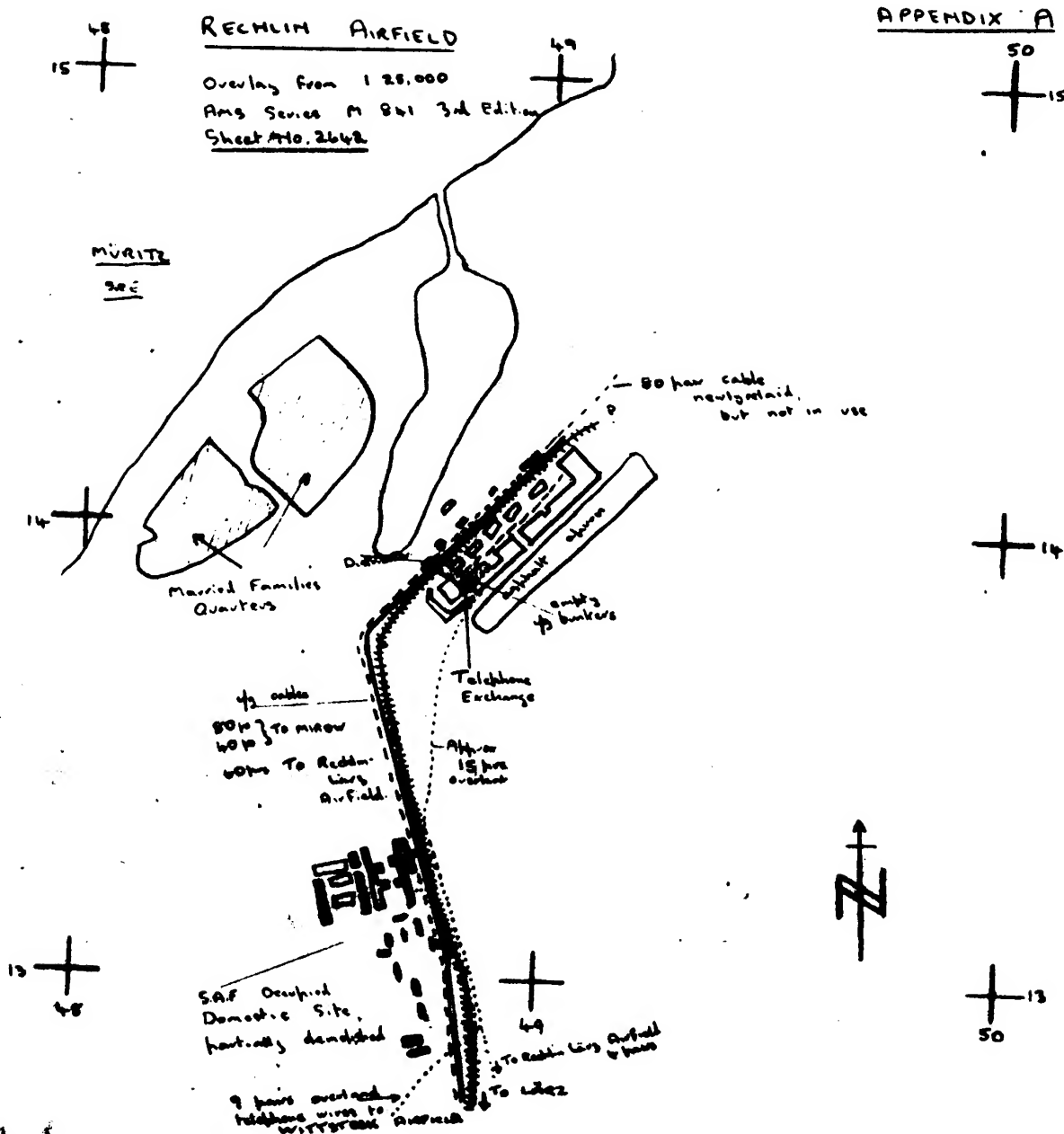
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